

**HANOVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING – BUDGET
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025 AT 5:30 PM**

- I.** The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 5:30 p.m. in the IMC at Memorial Junior School, 61 Highland Avenue, Whippany, NJ 07981.

The Board Secretary read the following statement:

In accordance with P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, notice of this meeting was provided to the newspaper of record, appropriately posted and sent to the Township Clerk on March 10, 2025. Ad was in the Daily Record on March 11, 2025 and the Hanover Eagle March 13, 2025.

Mrs. Bomengo led the flag salute.

Present: Board Members

Mrs. Gina Johnston Arrived 5:36 p.m.
Mr. Christopher Mattessich
Mr. William McCabe
Mrs. Michelle Stricchiola
Mr. Marc Amoresano
Mrs. Karin Coffey
Mrs. Lisa Bomengo, President

Interim Business

Dr. Edward Izbicki

Administrator & Board Secretary

Superintendent

Mr. Justin Toomey

Absent: Board Members

Mrs. Christine Egbert
Mr. Gregory Skiff

II. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

2025-2026 Preliminary Budget – Dr. Izbicki gave a PowerPoint Presentation, he explained the revenues for 2025-2026 as well as district enrollment. Mr. Wasserman, spoke about curriculum updates for the 2025-2026 school year. The presentation is available on our website.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only

Mr. Paul Szesko, Whippany commented that the electric rates will be going up in June. For the Board to be aware of higher bills.

Mr. Amoresano asked why the reduction in Extraordinary Aid, was it because Covid funding is over. Dr. Izbicki replied yes.

Mr. Mattessich asked about the increase in health benefits. Mr. Toomey responded, that both he and Dr. Izbicki spoke with Brown and Brown. We will have the same rate for 18 months. The health benefits will not go up January 2026. They are looking at ways to reduce the cost to the district.

IV. BOARD ACTIONS

C. FINANCE, TRANSPORTATION, PHYSICAL PLANT

I. FINANCE

Upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, move to:

1. Adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2025-2026 School Year and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

General Fund	\$ 35,229,228
Special Revenue	\$ 473,670

And to advertise said tentative budget in the newspaper of record in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held in the Memorial Junior School Library/Media Center, on April 29, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2025-2025 School Year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Preliminary Budget is subject to amendments and/or modifications by the Morris County Office of the New Jersey Department of Education and the Board of Education at the April 29, 2025 Public Hearing of the budget.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Approved:** Yes7, No 0

2. Approve a General Fund Tax Levy for the 2025-2026 budget, in the amount of \$31,295,502

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Approved:** Yes7, No 0

3. Authorize an adjustment for health care costs:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$717,927. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Approved:** Yes7, No 0

4. Authorize an adjustment for banked cap:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget the adjustment for banked cap in the amount of \$200,000. In accordance with N.J.A.C.

6A:23A-10.3(b), the district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority. The adjustment will be used to/for increased transportation costs. The Board of Education will complete this by June 30, 2026 and acknowledges that it cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Approved:** Yes7, No 0

5. Establish the following maximum annual expenditures for the 2025-2026 school year:

Public Relations	\$ 20,000
Auditor	\$ 44,000
Attorney	\$ 45,000
School Doctor	\$ 23,893

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Approved:** Yes7, No 0

6. Adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Hanover Township Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., to a maximum expenditure of \$49,400 for all staff and board members.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Approved:** Yes7, No 0

7. To approve William Padavano to attend the NJSBGA Conference Expo in Atlantic City 3/23-3/26/25, the cost not to exceed \$873.55.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Approved:** Yes 7, No 0

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

VI. MOTION TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION -- None

VII. ADJOURNMENT 5:47 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Amoresano **Seconded:** Mrs. Johnston **Approved:** Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward F. Izbicki", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Edward Izbicki
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary